```
1
                       EASTERN DISTRIC
 2
                           ALEXAN
 3
 4
     UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
                                                       Number
                                      Criminal
 5
                                    : 1:18-CR-214
                  versus
 6
     BOBBY PERKINS, JR.,
 7
                        Defendant. : August 31, 2018
 8
                  The above-entitled Sentencing was continued
 9
     before the Honorable T.S. Ellis, III, United States District
     Judge.
10
                         APPEARANCES
11
     FOR THE GOVERNMENT:
12
                  Alexander E. Blanchard, ESQ.
13
                  US Attorney's Office
                  2100 Jamieson Avenue
14
                  Alexandria, VA 22314
15
     FOR THE DEFENDANT:
16
                  C. DEAN LATSIOS, ESQ.
                  3905 Railroad Ave
17
                  Suite 104
                  Fairfax, VA 22030
18
19
20
21
            OFFICIAL UNITED STATES COURT REPORTER:
22
                  MS. TONIA M. HARRIS, RPR
                  United States District Court
23
                  Eastern District of Virginia
                  401 Courthouse Square
24
                  Ninth Floor
                  Alexandria, VA 22314
25
                                -Tonia M. Harris OCR-USDC/EDVA 703-646-1438-
```

2

1 PROCEEDINGS

2 (Court proceedings commenced at 11:51 a.m.)

THE DEPUTY CLERK: The United States versus Bobby

4 | Perkins, Jr., Criminal Case No. 1:18-CR-214.

5 THE COURT: All right. Who is here for the

6 | Government?

7 MR. BLANCHARD: Good morning, Your Honor. Alex

8 | Blanchard for the United States.

9 MR. LATSIOS: Good morning, Your Honor. Dean

10 Latsios for Mr. Perkins.

11 THE COURT: Good morning, Mr. Latsios. We'll await

12 | the arrival of the plaintiff [sic], who is now in the

13 | courtroom in the custody of the marshals.

Good morning, Mr. Riley [sic]. You may be seated,

15 sir.

16 MR. LATSIOS: Perkins.

17 THE COURT: Perkins. I'm sorry. Mr. Perkins, good

18 morning.

19 THE DEFENDANT: Good morning.

20 THE COURT: Mr. Perkins is before the Court for

21 | sentencing. This defendant having been found guilty on the

22 basis of a plea of three counts: conspiracy to distribute and

23 possession with intent to distribute marijuana, and cocaine

24 | base, 28 grams of marijuana, and 100 grams or more of heroin.

25 | No, it's 28 grams or more of cocaine base. Marijuana there

- 1 | wasn't a substance. And also 100 grams or more of heroin.
- 2 | And Count 2 was the use and carrying of a firearm in relation
- 3 | to a drug trafficking crime. And Count 3 was dealing in
- 4 | firearms without a license.

review it with your client?

- Let me inquire, Mr. Latsios, whether you've had an adequate opportunity to review the presentence report and to
- 8 MR. LATSIOS: I have, Judge.
- 9 THE COURT: And Mr. Perkins, have you had an
- 10 | adequate opportunity to read and review the presentence report
- 11 | and review it with your counsel, Mr. Latsios?
- 12 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir, I have.
- THE COURT: And are you fully satisfied with the
- 14 | advice and counsel he's provided to you in this case?
- 15 THE DEFENDANT: I am.
- 16 THE COURT: All right, sir, you may be seated.
- 17 All right. The -- are there any objections or
- 18 | corrections to the presentence report?
- Mr. Latsios, I think you've raised a question about
- 20 grouping.

- 21 MR. LATSIOS: Actually, Judge I did with the
- 22 | probation officer but I did not -- I was wrong. So --
- 23 THE COURT: Because there really can't be any
- 24 | objection to -- there can't be grouping.
- 25 All right. Let me -- so there are no objections,

-United States v. Perkins-4 1 Mr. Latsios? 2 MR. LATSIOS: That's correct, Judge. 3 THE COURT: Now, for the Government. Mr. Blanchard, does the Government have any objections? 4 5 MR. BLANCHARD: No, Your Honor. THE COURT: All right. The Court will, therefore, 6 7 adopt the findings and conclusions of the presentence 8 investigation report as the Court's findings and conclusions in this matter. And we will proceed now to allocution and 10 argument. I do have a number of attachments, Mr. Latsios, 11 that I will ensure go forward with his record, his airport 12 firefighter certification and his HazMat Awareness and 13 Operations certificate. Firefighter 1 and 2 I also have. I 14 will make all of those a part of the presentence report. 15 Is there anything else I should make a part of the 16 presentence report, Mr. Latsios? 17 MR. LATSIOS: Judge, no, but I have a letter from 18 somebody -- I just got recently from Mr. Perkins behalf. 19 THE COURT: Yes, I have. Let me review those because I've read those. I have a letter from his wife Tyece 20 21 Humphrey, is that right? 22 MR. LATSIOS: That's correct. 23 THE COURT: I also have a letter from his mother, 24 the Reverend Mary Proctor. 25 MR. LATSIOS: That's correct.

Tonia M. Harris OCR-USDC/EDVA 703-646-1438

```
-United States v. Perkins-
 1
               THE COURT: Who I see is present in the courtroom.
 2
    I've read that as well. And I have a letter also from Dr.
 3
    JoAnn Perkins. And finally, I have a letter from Ms. Sherry
 4
    Wyatt.
 5
               Do I have everything, Mr. Latsios?
 6
               And I see Ms. Wyatt present in the courtroom as
 7
    well.
 8
              MR. LATSIOS: There is another one that I received
 9
    the other day after I received the memorandum. I've given it
10
    to counsel.
11
               THE COURT: All right. Give it to the court
12
    security officer and I'll read it now.
13
               (A pause in the proceedings.)
14
               THE COURT: It's a letter from Jerome Brown, the
15
    president of BHB Masonry. I have that Jerome Brown. I'll
16
    make that a part of the record as well.
17
              MR. LATSIOS: Thank you.
18
              THE COURT: Now, the Court is restricted in this
19
    case in its ability to exercise judgment as to sentence,
20
    because as to Count 1 there is a mandatory minimum term of
21
    imprisonment of five years. Am I correct?
22
              MR. BLANCHARD: That's correct, Your Honor.
23
              THE COURT: And as to Count 2, there's a mandatory
24
    minimum consecutive term of imprisonment of five years.
```

MR. BLANCHARD: That's correct, Your Honor.

United States v. Perkins-6 THE COURT: And as to Count 3, there it's - it's 1 2 limited to five years, but it doesn't have to be concurrent or 3 consecutive. 4 MR. BLANCHARD: That's correct, Your Honor. Maximum 5 of five years. 6 THE COURT: All right. So that's where we are, I 7 think, Mr. Latsios. I'll hear from you now on the appropriate 8 sentence. MR. LATSIOS: Your Honor, in 2017 the sentencing commission accomplished a study which showed a direct 10 correlation between criminal history points and recidivism. 11 12 THE COURT: Showed a direct correlation between. 13 MR. LATSIOS: Criminal history points and 14 recidivism, rate of recidivism. 15 THE COURT: Yes. 16 MR. LATSIOS: So lower points/lower rate, higher 17 points/ higher rate. 18 THE COURT: Which, of course, any intuitive and 19 experienced person would say: Of course, that's obvious. 20 MR. LATSIOS: Well, it's --21 THE COURT: But it's now confirmed empirically. 22 MR. LATSIOS: Right. People who have zero criminal 23 history points at the lowest rate of recidivism overall, 24 according to the study and it was the 25,431 inmates that were

-Tonia M. Harris OCR-USDC/EDVA 703-646-1438-

released in the course of 2005. It was -- overall the rate of

-United States v. Perkins-

recidivism was 30.2 percent. And of those people who were recidivist, the most serious offense usually in the rearrest, was what they call the public order offense. It wasn't an assault, it wasn't a violent crime.

Mr. Perkins had zero criminal history points and he's in the group that has the lowest rate of recidivism. And this, I think, relevant to two aims of sentencing which is deterrence and to protect the public from further crimes of Mr. Perkins. Clearly you need to address those issues in your sentence, but the significance is lessened in this case because Mr. Perkins is in a group that historically has the lowest rate of recidivism.

And the zero points that he has is consistent with his history and characteristics, which are set out in the presentence report and explained in greater detail in the letters that were submitted on his behalf. He's intelligent. He's hard working. He's a 29-year-old male. He's a former United States Marine. He's a skilled electrician. He's a loving husband and father to three young daughters. He obtained his GED at age 16, which I think is very impressive, Judge. In the presentence report it says he was expelled from high school in the 10th grade. Usually you're about 15 years old in 10th grade. At the age of 16 he obtained his GED. That's — that's a testament to his academic acumen and his intelligence as well as his motivation to get the GED. And

all of those things are set forth in the character letters which are submitted, which you've read.

I would like to point out that contrary to what the Government put in their memorandum, in the presentence report Mr. Perkins has no significant history of violence set out in his criminal history category in the criminal history section of the report.

His involvement in this case, I think, is a result of purely, as you know and you talk about, wrong decisions and wrong consequences. He made the wrong decision. He understands that. But this is not a situation where his decision to get involved in his case is a result of innate criminal orientation. And the criminal history score supports that.

And we're asking, as you know, in our memorandum and you know there is a limit to what you can do, we're asking that you consider a variant sentence down to the mandatory minimum on the first count, Count 1 of five years. That cannot — three has a maximum of five years. The guideline above that, so you can't go more than five. We're asking that you impose a five-year sentence on Count 3 and run it concurrent with Count 1.

And then Count 2 had -- it's a 924(c) count with a mandatory consecutive sentence of at least five years. We're asking for you to impose a five-year mandatory minimum on

9

- 1 | Count 3 -- Count 2 consecutive to Counts 1 and 2 -- I mean
- 2 | Counts 1 and 3. That would leave a total imprisonment term of
- 3 | 120 months, which I think is a significant term of
- 4 | imprisonment and I think it's sufficient but not greater than
- 5 | necessary to achieve the aid of sentencing.
- 6 THE COURT: All right.
 - MR. LATSIOS: Mr. Perkins would request, Judge, that a recommendation that he would be assigned to Petersburg if
- 9 | that's at all possible.

7

- 10 THE COURT: All right. Mr. Blanchard.
- MR. BLANCHARD: Your Honor, the Section 3553(a)
- 12 | factors counsel strongly is in favor of a lengthy term of
- 13 | imprisonment in this case.
- Mr. Perkins organized, supervised and participated
- 15 | in armed drug distribution conspiracy. And in so doing caused
- 16 | substantial quantities of highly addictive, potentially lethal
- 17 | drugs to be brought into a relatively small community in
- 18 | Stafford. That included 200 grams of crack cocaine and 200
- 19 grams of heroin.
- 20 The seriousness of Mr. Perkins dealing in firearms
- 21 | without a license is practically self evident, Your Honor. At
- 22 | this juncture 224 known handguns were resold by Mr. Perkins.
- 23 | Some, by his own admission, to individuals that he knew were
- 24 | convicted felons at the time that he sold them.
- 25 And, Your Honor, if you look at the now 94 guns that

-United States v. Perkins-

have been recovered by law enforcement, and in my position paper I noted that it was 93, one was recovered yesterday afternoon during the execution of the search warrant in northeast Washington, D.C. If you look at those 94 guns, it demonstrates the grave consequences of Mr. Perkins's conduct. Guns have been recovered not just all over the greater D.C. metropolitan area, but also as far away as Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

And as I noted again in my position paper, Your

Honor, five of those guns have been connected to three

different homicides. One of the victims of those homicides is

Mr. Perkins's own cousin.

As I noted in the position paper as well, Your
Honor, Mr. -- Mr. Perkins grew up with every advantage and has
apparently wanted for very little in his life. Mr. Latsios
alluded to some of this. He grew up in a stable middle class
household. He had gainful employment for a significant
portion of his adult life as an electrician. He -- at least
the PSR reflects no evidence of serious mental emotional or
substance abuse problems. And he's had a close relationship
with his parents. Both of whom appear to be people of faith.
You noted that his mother, Your Honor, is a reverend and I
believe there was an allusion in one of the letters to his
father being a pastor.

Now, why do I bring all of this up? I bring it up,

-United States v. Perkins-11 1 Your Honor, to show that as opposed to other defendants who have serious mitigating circumstances in their lives, Mr. 2 3 Perkins grew up with no serious disadvantages and has encountered very little in his adult life. He squandered that 4 5 life to pursue a life of crime and he's been having run-ins 6 with law enforcement consistently now for the last few years. 7 In his position paper Mr. Latsios wrote that Mr. 8 Perkins -- Mr. Perkins's participation in the instant offenses 9 was, "The result of poor decision making and not indicative of 10 a criminal orientation." And Mr. Latsios alluded to that 11 again this afternoon, Your Honor. 12 But the facts of this case belie that claim. 13 Perkins isn't here today because of one bad decision. He's 14 here today because of hundreds of bad decisions, Your Honor, 15 over the course of several years. 16

And I was struck, Your Honor, in preparing for today's hearing by a line in the letter that Mr. Perkins's mother submitted to the Court. She wrote, "Bobby has always excelled at whatever he put his hands to."

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

Those words certainly ring true, Your Honor. He excelled for quite some time as a drug dealer and a gun runner.

And that brings us to the issue of deterrence which the Government believes is a salient consideration with respect to Mr. Perkins.

2

3

4

5

6

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

12

Mr. Perkins knew he was under investigation by the ATF in the Stafford County Sheriff's Office. He was interviewed by them multiple times over the years and he even told associates of his that he was worried that the ATF was investigating him. And yet for whatever reason, maybe hubris, maybe greed, that didn't stop him for committing these crimes. And there's a temptation in this case, Your Honor, to look at Mr. Perkins's conduct and observe that the peak of his criminal misconduct occurred approximately two or three years And assume that the need for a specific deterrence in this case is abated. But the Government submits that that's not the case and that it's important to consider the circumstances surrounding his arrest on the offenses that have brought him here today. Mr. Perkins was arrested exiting his house and getting into his vehicle. And when the arrest warrant was executed, he had \$1,500 in cash on his person. In the vehicle law enforcement found nearly 500 grams of marijuana. scales, a loaded handgun. Subsequently a search of the residence that he had exited was conducted and there was found 200 grams of marijuana, a loaded handgun, and four extended

And this was all while Mr. Perkins was under indictment in Stafford County for felony offenses relating to

magazines, one of which was fully loaded.

him shooting a gun at individuals with whom he had been having

a beef, charges that he is scheduled to stand trial on later this year.

There's every reason to believe, Your Honor, that but for the intervention of federal law enforcement Mr.

Perkins would still be engaged in armed drug dealing today.

For these reasons a sentence at the high end of the guidelines is not only reasonable but it's necessary. And the Government, accordingly, asked Your Honor to sentence Mr.

Perkins to a total term if imprisonment of 168 months to be followed by a total term of supervised release of five years.

Thank you.

THE COURT: Mr. Latsios you wish to respond? You don't need to repeat anything, but if there's something you wish to say in addition before I hear from your client's allocution. Does he wish to allocute?

MR. LATSIOS: I think he does, Your Honor.

The only point I would make, Judge, and Mr.

Blanchard pointed out the fact that the conduct here did occur several years ago. Mr. Blanchard is extrapolating in saying, "but for he would continue on." That's speculation. But clearly this happened several years ago.

THE COURT: All right. Mr. Perkins, this is now your opportunity to address the Court and to say anything at all you wish of the Court by way of extenuation or mitigation or indeed anything you think the Court should know before

-Tonia M. Harris OCR-USDC/EDVA 703-646-1438-

(Recess.)

1.8

THE COURT: All right. Come to the podium, Mr.

Perkins.

Mr. Perkins, you stand convicted on the basis of your plea of three very serious crimes. And the law requires that I take into account a number of factors in imposing an appropriate sentence. First, your personal history and characteristics. Mr. Latsios is correct to point out that you have no criminal history and that you've accomplished some important things in your life. Such as earning your GED at 16 after having been left leaving school in the 10th grade. And your work as a firefighter and so forth. All of those are significant achievements. These letters in your behalf are impressive as well. But as Mr. Blanchard points out, you did have a lot of advantages and you squandered them.

The law requires that I consider the seriousness of the offenses involved. And they are serious. You conspired to distribute and to possess to distribute crack cocaine, heroin, marijuana. Congress has appropriately recognized that those are poisons. Drugs threaten to rend the fabric of our society. They ruin people's lives. I think it was significant too to note, Mr. Perkins, that you're not a drug abuser.

Is that correct, Mr. Blanchard?

MR. BLANCHARD: As far as the Government knows,

that's correct, Your Honor.

THE COURT: It's a poison for other people. The second crime, the use and carrying a firearm in relation.

Now, you say you're not a violent person in your allocution.

Well, the amount of firearms that you've been involved with points in the other direction. And you dealt almost 300 firearms.

MR. BLANCHARD: 224, Your Honor.

THE COURT: 224. Thank you. Many of them had been -- or some of them, not many, but some of them were recovered in the possession of felons and were used in other crimes.

Is that correct, Mr. Blanchard?

MR. BLANCHARD: That's right.

THE COURT: So I don't think you can claim to be nonviolent. Maybe you didn't shoot somebody and maybe you didn't attack somebody, but you clearly were surrounded by instruments of violence. So the crimes are very serious and Congress has appropriately prescribed severe penalties for those crimes.

The law requires that I impose a sentence that promotes respect for the law, that provides just punishment for the offenses, and that serves to deter you and to deter others. I think you do need to be deterred. But I also think it's very important that any sentence I impose on you must stand as a beacon, as a warning to others not to engage in

this conduct.

The law requires that I impose a sentence on you that isn't greater than necessary to accomplish the goals of sentencing. But in the end, a sentence is not a mathematical calculation. I'm not bound by the guidelines. They are a factor to consider but they are not mandatory.

I've considered all those. And in the end, it is the judgment of this Court that you be committed to the custody of the Bureau of Prisons, with respect to Count 1, for 84 months. And that's above the 60-month mandatory minimum, because you were an organizer and leader. And you distributed and intended to distribute substantial amounts of these very pernicious substances. 84 months as to Count 1.

For Count 2, the law requires that I impose 60 months consecutive to what I imposed on Count 1. And for Count 3, I'm going to impose a 60-month sentence. That is you're committed to the custody of Bureau of Prisons for a period of five years.

Now, the reason that that's the maximum is the number of guns involved. It really has to reflect that. The total sentence will be 144 months. That's 60, plus 84, plus 60. The 60 for Count 3 will run consecutive to the sentence imposed with respect to Count 1.

MR. BLANCHARD: I believe you mean concurrent, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Concurrent. You're correct.

2 | Concurrent. Thank you.

So 60 months for Count 1. I'm sorry. 84 months for Count 1; 60 months for Count 2 consecutive to Count 1; 60 months for Count 3 concurrent to the 84-month sentence imposed on Count 1.

Four years of supervised release to follow the period of 84 months imposed on Count 1. Five years of supervised release to follow the 60-month consecutive sentence imposed on Count 2, and three years of supervised release to follow the period of 60 months imposed with respect to Count 3. All of those periods of supervised release will run concurrent to each other. So it's a total supervised release term of five years.

I didn't think a guideline sentence, Mr. Blanchard, was necessary to deter him and to acknowledge and take into account the seriousness of the offense, but I did think, Mr. Latsios, it had to be more than ten. Count 3 really deserved the maximum sentence for the number of guns involved and the length of time. And Count 1 deserved more than the mandatory minimum because of the role he played in this as well.

imposed. You'll have to pay a \$100 special assessment for each count for a total of \$300. The Court does not impose any punitive fine or any fine to cover the cost of incarceration

	United States v. Perkins————————————————————————————————————
1	THE DEFENDANT: Three years.
2	THE COURT: And were you honorably discharged?
3	THE DEFENDANT: I had a general discharge.
4	THE COURT: General discharge.
5	THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir.
6	THE COURT: What resulted in the general discharge?
7	THE DEFENDANT: I was separated for a case that I
8	was I was charged with I had received a charge in D.C.
9	in 2009 and they separated me before I could go to trial and
10	defend myself and I was found not guilty. I was acquitted.
11	THE COURT: And what was the charge you were
12	acquitted of?
13	THE DEFENDANT: I believe it was possessing of a
14	firearm without a license.
15	THE COURT: All right. Well, that information
16	wouldn't have played any role in my sentencing. I did take
17	into account that you did in fact serve in the Marine Corps
18	and that you got some good training and qualifications in
19	there.
20	I didn't know from for sure, but I think Mr.
21	Birely, did you report in the presentence report. I couldn't
22	remember whether it was honorable discharge or a general
23	discharge?
24	THE PROBATION: I would have to look at that, Your
25	Honor.

——Tonia M. Harris OCR-USDC/EDVA 703-646-1438—

```
-United States v. Perkins----
                                                                    21
               THE COURT: Well, that's all right. It wouldn't
 1
 2
    have played a role in any event.
 3
               Anything further, Mr. Latsios?
               MR. LATSIOS: No, Your Honor.
 4
 5
               THE COURT: Mr. Blanchard.
               MR. BLANCHARD: No, Your Honor.
 6
 7
               THE COURT: All right.
 8
                  (Proceedings adjourned at 12:29 p.m.)
 9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
                                —Tonia M. Harris OCR-USDC/EDVA 703-646-1438—
```

CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

I, Tonia Harris, an Official Court Reporter for the Eastern District of Virginia, do hereby certify that I reported by machine shorthand, in my official capacity, the proceedings had and testimony adduced upon the Sentencing in the case of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA versus BOBBY PERKINS, JR., Criminal Action No. 1:18-CR-214, in said court on the 31st day of August, 2018.

I further certify that the foregoing 22 pages constitute the official transcript of said proceedings, as taken from my machine shorthand notes, my computer realtime display, together with the backup tape recording of said proceedings to the best of my ability.

In witness whereof, I have hereto subscribed my name, this September 12, 2018.

Tonia M. Harris, RPR Official Court Reporter